# [Correspondence of the State Sentine].

OVERLAND TRIP TO CALIFORNIA Alkaline Districts of the Pacific-the Internal Wealth of Nevada-How to Make Money in Silver Mining. &c.

AUSTIN, NEVADA TER., April 26, 1865 ED SENTINEL: Coming from the grain fields and blooming orehards of California to the barren bills and sandy wastes of Nevada, it can hardly be expected that I should go into ecstacies over the "delightful" prospect which now greets me. You can have no just conception, except upon view, of the picture of desolation presented in this inhospitable region. A long and dreary winter, with a daily visitation of howling tempests, broken only by snow-capped moun-tains, lifting high, oftimes, their whitened crests among the clouds, with scarce any communication with the great world outside, has most effectually hybernated the hardy miners and dar ing adventurers here congregated. The snow yet lingers on the surrounding mountains, and not a spot of green vegetation relieves the eye. Alkali flats and sage-bush plains stretch away in the distant valleys in gloomy monotony, inconceivable by the happy dinizen of the fertile prairies and shady woodlands of the "States."

Most of your readers have no conception of an "alkali flat." I will attempt a feeble explanation. From the Eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, far into Oregon on the North, and Southward into Mexico, in a greater or less degree, alkaline deposits, consisting mainly of common salt, alum and saleratus, are found intermingled with the common soil. In the Great Basin—a district comprised within the Rocky and Sierra Modntains, extending from the interior of Idaho to the Mountains skirting the Colorado river-and in the valleys among the Black Hills East of the South Pass, these deposits frequently crop out into lakes, encrusted with white crystals, presenting a surface like that of a snowbank; and wagon wheels passing over them, cut through this surface, making a "crackling" noise resembling that made in going over frozen snow. In some instances, these crystals are almost pure A single Bettle will last a Month-to salt; in others, saleratus, fit for use in raising bread and dyspepsia. In crossing these lakes of a hot summer's day, the sun, reflected from in an atmosphere of stifling heat, the unfortunate wayfarer. For that reason, they are usually crossed at night in the hot months.

In other places, pools of water, filtering through the alkaline soil, lure to speedy death the animal that ventures there to slake its thirst. The water of these pools is of a lye color and consistence; and, when taken into the intestines, quickly corrodes them unless neutralized by fatty Where these salts do not crop out into crystals,

they are found intermingled with sand and soil; and, in the dry season, great clouds of dust, thus composed, sweep over the plains like a simoon. In the valley of San Jose, California, in certain localities, the alkali rises to the surface, streaking it with a whitish color. Beets and cabages are said to draw out and absorb it. Small grain, such as wheat, barley and oats, grow readily in alkaline soil So do various fruits But this productiveness must be developed by abundant moisture; and, where irrigation is not resorted to, such soils refuse to yield. The dust, which inflames eyes, throat and lungs, and the water, impregnated more or less with these salts. bard, often brackish, and of a corrosive tendency, will prevent these alkaline districts from becoming desirable places of residence. Exposed to the dust, the skin scales off, the hair becomes harsh, and leather is soon "furred up." Here, in Nevada, springs high up in the mountains are purest, while those in the valleys, unless of an artesian character, are more or less alkaline.

However repulsive this bleak region may be to one desirous of permanent residence, it is not excelled in mineral wealth. Silver ledges, ranging in thickness from a few inches to fifty feet, are found in all the mountain ranges, from the South Pass to the Sierras. Gold-bearing quartz and cinabar are occasionally found. Salt, in na tive crystals, fit for use, abounds in convenient localities. The silver ore here is found in veins of quartz. Before the silver can be disengaged this rock must be crushed, to do which profitably requires mills, costing from \$30,000 to \$100,000 It rarely happens that a silver mine is profitable until the water level is reached. This takes great labor, and frequently no little capital. Hedges have "breaks" and "pitches" in them, where considerable outlay must be made before

Pay Rock is again reached. Caves in shafts and tunnels are not unfrequent, and these occasion expense and delay. Hoisting machines, propelled by steam power, very soon become a necessity. All their causes, with others of a similar character, make the business, when conducted by individual enterprise, without capital, extremely precarious. Hence, the experienced miner who locates a claim now, calculates to sell out to capitalists without consuming his time and means in fruitless and impoverishing efforts to develop. Gradually all the desirable locations are pass-

ing into the hands of capitalists, who rarely fail to make them pay hugely.

There is no more inviting field for the investment of capital than in Nevada. Judiciously employed it cannot fail to be productive beyond any investment in the States. Take, for example, a twenty stamp mill, roasters, and accompanying apparatus, necessary to reduce the ore to bullion, with good buildings, ready for operation, all complete, costing here \$75,000. Such a mill will yield a profit of from \$500 to \$700 per day; thus in one year paying for itself and yielding an enormous dividend to its owners. These are practical results, not new fancies. They are realized by all such mills throughout the mining districts, where they are controlled by industrious and prudeut management. And one bundred times as many more mills could be profitably employed within a radius of fitty miles from this place. Those gentlemen who have a plethora of greenbacks could not make a safer or more profitable investment than by organizing companies, buying mills and sending them Out here, with competent agents to operate them.

These mills can be readily purchased in San
Francisco, or they may be sent over the plains
from the Missouri river by mule teams, in about

ten weeks at less cost. The news of the assassination of Lincoln excited universal sorrow on the Pacific coast. He had become especially endeared to Democrats by his conciliatory course during the last few months of his life. Sad, indeed, is the hour in American history, when the Chief Magistrate of the Nation is stricken down by the hand of an assassin. But the spirit which lurked in the breast of the murderer and incited him to the diabolical deed was called up by those pestiferous party newspapers who, ignoring law and bidding Constitutions defiance, have sedulously taught the mob to appreciate their power, and directed their fury against their political opponents to crush them out. In rebeldom, the tvr anny of Jeff Davis evoked it; and at the North, the facility with which human life is taken and sacred rights trampled in the dust, for mere partisan purposes, has fostered it, until crime has ON VENEREAL DISEASES, lost its terrors. The loosening of the bonds of lost its terrors. The loosening of the bonds of syphilis, Stricture, Gravel, Stone, society in one place relaxes them in another, and Ruptures, Piles, Fistula, Urinary

from the Missouri river by mule teams, in about

the result is general demoralization. Nowhere on this continent is there so much intolerance of political opinion as on this coast. McDowell plays the petty tyrant, issuing ukases FEMALE DISEASES, with obat pleasure, abrogating well established constitutional and municipal law, declaring it a high crime to speak or write disrespectfully of the president, locking up printing offices and imprisoning editors, not for treason, but for differing with him in political sentiment! "That chicken will come back to roost." Some day another party will be in power, and it will, in like manner, attempt to tramel free thought, and so will go from one step to another to anarchy, or to an acknowledged despotism. FAR WEST.

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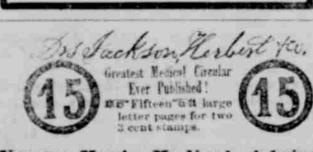
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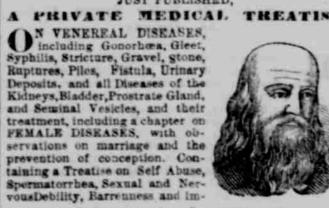
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a paticular branch in the business denominated fine draw- \$9, and will be sent to any part, carefully packed, en ing-billis) stable cloth, or tear in any garment can be receipt of remittance to his accredited agent. Circular so wrought that it can not be visible to the naked eye. Remember the place, No. 28 South filinois street. JOSEPH HARRIS, Preprietor.

PRIVATE DISEASES. DR. COLYOUR, MEDICAL OFFICE NO. 63 SOUTH Meridian Street, forfeits his fee if he fails in cur ing any case that may come under his care, no matter how obstinate or long standing. He warrants you a

AGUE. It is destined to supersede all other remedies. It not only cures these diseases, but it prevents them. A wine Reader, I have given you a class of diseases that are glass of the Bitters, taken an hour before each meal, will met with in Females of all ages, whether married or un- obviate the ill effects of the most unbealthy climate, and married; and to married Females would say that there screen the person taking it against disease under the are many other forms of diseases peculiar to your sex- most trying exposure.

73 South Meridian Street,

SMITH'S TONIC SYRUP.

BOWELS;

Remember DAILY, KEEFER & RUSH dec16'64-dly&w12toam

consumption bear ample witness.

the council chamber, adding but one more disease to this list, and that is a formidable one-Ulcerstion of the If you are afflicted with organic weakness, or any assemblage of morbid phenomena of this character, you have no time to spare, but at once apply for med cal aid. If too late to arrest the disease, it is at least possible to palliate the symptoms, and thus smoothe the path.

If Poffice hours from 8 A. M. to 4 P. M. Room No. 24 %, East Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.